



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
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September 1, 2005

TO: CSD Regional Administrators
CSO Administrators
Financial Assistance Coordinators

FROM: Steven Wish, Director *lw*
Division of Customer Support
Health and Recovery Services Administration

John Clayton *John Clayton*
Director
Community Services Division
Economic Services Administration

**SUBJECT: REINSTATEMENT OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM (CHP) FOR
NON-CITIZEN CHILDREN**

What is the Children's Health Program (CHP)?

CHP provides medical coverage to non-citizen children under the age of 18 who are ineligible for Medicaid due to immigration status and have household income at or below 100 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). CHP will provide categorically needy scope of care and will be fee-for-service (not Healthy Options). Because CHP expenditures cannot exceed the legislated appropriation, average monthly enrollment will be restricted to 4,300 children from the program's start in January 2006 through June 2006.

Who will determine eligibility for Children's Health Program?

Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA), Medical Eligibility Determination Services (MEDS) will process all CHP applications. CHP enrollment will be capped shortly after implementation and a wait list is established. HRSA/MEDS staff will maintain the wait list. Shared cases between the local Community Service Office (CSO) and MEDS will follow the same process as Basic Health Plus shared cases. Instructions on processing shared cases will be updated in the EA-Z manual under Children's Medical Program, Worker Responsibilities.

When will ACES support the Children's Health Program?

ACES will fully support CHP in the January 16, 2006 ACES release. The ACES medical program code will be F08.

How and when will applications be accepted?

A one-page Children's Health Program application will be available in November 2005. CHP applicants should mail applications directly to MEDS. If CSO staff receives an application that includes a child denied Medicaid due to immigration status, staff should forward the application to MEDS through the Document Management System (DMS) assignment process. We will send DMS assignment information to CSO staff in November.

We anticipate a flood of applications vying to be first in line for this capped program. To ease concerns over this rush, we will have an open enrollment window for applicants. "Day one" applications are those applications received December 1, 2005 through December 16, 2005. MEDS staff will randomly select "day one" applications. Applications not selected from the "day one" applications will be placed on the wait list. Applications received after December 16, 2005 will be placed on the wait list in order of date received.

How will clients learn about this new program?

Beginning September 2005, HRSA will send informational letters about the CHP to community advocates, schools, and community health care clinics. In November, DSHS press releases will go to the media. Also in November, the Department will mail CHP applications to all households that include both a child who meets the CHP eligibility criteria and recipients in active ACES status (primarily State Family Assistance (SFA) households).

If you have further questions or would like more information visit <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov/Eligibility/ChildrensHealth.html> or contact your MAA regional representative.

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cc: Rob St. John
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